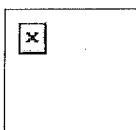


Mark Persico

From: Carmen Alvarez
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 7:36 AM
To: Mark Persico; Jerry Olivera
Subject: FW: Robert & Angie Dorame & the Dorame Family

Carmen Alvarez, Executive Assistant
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For Information about Seal Beach, please see our city website: <http://www.ci.sealbeachca.gov>

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From: Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians [<mailto:gabrielenoindians@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 11:47 PM
To: albertacuna57@yahoo.com; Al Perez; anita; apache; Dorian; terri fulton; ACE Environmental; bgvalle@csupomona.edu; BigDadAcuna@aol.com; Carmen Alvarez; doug@seal-beach.org; rung@city.newport-beach.ca.us; Bethania; Jack L. Bath; Paul Moreno; calvitre@yahoo.com; ChiefRBWife@aol.com; chumashdreams@att.net; cynthiiaa@theaceproject.org; Al Perez; Christina Swildall; Chief Harold D. Hatcher; joe castillo; savemontebellohills C.F.; LA County CEO; danny.ramos@seiu721.org; davidgfeather@version.net; Dororthy Matthews; Gary Stickle; jjohnson@sbnature2.org; steve lopez; evelyn-mitchell@sbcglobal.net; Robert E. Smith; frankmoen@cox.net; franrdh@yahoo.com; Felicia Sheerman; gabrielino3@yahoo.com; Robert Garcia; gomez_bm@yahoo.com; gtongva@verizon.net
Subject: Fw: Robert & Angie Dorame & the Dorame Family

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

For a long time fraudulent, Most Likely Descendants, (MLD's) have been used for the monitoring of major dig sites. These so called (MLD's) only had one thing in mind but to put cash into their pockets by making individual deals with large corporations in which they have profited exclusively. Now its time to stop these fraudulent self proclaimed Indians from desecrating anymore of our Native sites by bringing this information to the appropriate people and informing them of what is actually going on.

The illegal takeover of Kuruvungna Springs (University High School) by willfully and knowingly producing false documents and lying on Non profit status applications to secure this native Indian site.

The genuine Native Indians have been left to fight this on going battle alone by proving who they are and exposing who is not Native Indian.

7/6/2011

The Truth of Robert F. Dorame's Claimed Indian Lineage

By Lorraine Escobar, CG/NAL
July 3, 2011

Introduction

There's a messy war going on. It's a battle of who has the right to have say-so over Native American Indian remains in California and the ineffectual means to protect those rights through the Native American Heritage Commission [NAHC]. As clear cut as this process should be, the Bureau of Indians Affairs [BIA] unwittingly contaminated it with its ignorant reliance on mere self-identification – namely the paperwork of the 1928 California Indian Jurisdictional Act [CIJA]. So, as it so often happens, the rights of authentic California Indians are being usurped because some self-claimed "Indians" are using unproven and erroneous 1928 BIA documentation as if it was gospel and cannot be challenged. This database must be challenged if the rights of the Native American Indians are to be protected.

If left alone, this conflict has no resolution. The genuine Indians are left to fight their battles one-by-one and most of the time, the reality falls on deaf ears. Even though the Office of Federal Acknowledgment (a federal agency) knows the 1928 paperwork is unreliable, the BIA continues to issue Certificates of Degree of Indian blood based upon nothing more than self-identification. Further, the NAHC's policy of allowing non-Indians to represent other unproven Indians makes it difficult to make the truth matter. But, unlike the days of the first California Indian enrollment (1929-1932), objective and reliable evidence is accessible. It is now possible to know who really is a genuine California Indian and who is not. Now, it is this truth that will become the ally of the genuine Indians – albeit one report at a time. It is time to begin correcting the wrong and protecting the rights of real Indians even if it means exposing self-proclaimed "Indians who do not belong in the process."

It is a matter of public record that Robert Dorame is involved as a Most Likely Descendant in dealing with human remains found at the Playa Vista development, in West Los Angeles, California. Does Mr. Dorame have any right to do this? According to reliable evidence, the irrevocable answer is, "***Absolutely not.***" For the sake of protecting the rights of real California Indians, let the record no longer be hidden but be brought forth to set the record straight once and for all time in this report.

Robert Dorame's Claims & Agency Assumptions

On October 4, 1992, Robert F. Dorame signed a tribal enrollment application claiming his Indian ancestor was "Teresa San Gabriel Mission Indian."^[1] Following suit with this claim, as the *USA Today* stated:

Robert Dorame, tribal chairman of the Gabrielino/Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council, was named most likely descendant and agreed to the company's plan before the extent of the remains was known... [2]

Furthermore, in an article written by Dean Kuipers, "Between Heaven & Earth," Kuipers claimed:

*Dorame is ... the state-designated Most Likely Descendant for the Playa Vista project. **That means he's the direct lineal descendant of the Indians who lived on the Playa Vista site ...**[3]*

Kuiper's ignorant assumption needs to be challenged – being chosen as a Most Likely Descendant [MLD] is *not* proof Dorame is a “direct lineal descendant of the Indians ...” It only means the NAHC accepted Dorame's claim. And, the facts demonstrate they did so without examining the evidence to back up that claim. Repeating an error does not increase its credibility.

In conducting genealogical research on this claimed lineage, it was discovered six of Dorame's relatives enrolled in the 1928 California Indian Jurisdictional Act [CIJA].[4] Their applications tell a different story - Teresa was a “*San Diego Indian*” that “*lived* in San Gabriel .” None of them ever claimed Teresa was a Gabrieleño Indian.

This discrepancy is a big deal, especially in view of the requirements the NAHC put upon its MLD's – a requirement that all applicants prove their ancestral origins are within a 12-mile radius to the affected burial site:

Individuals who can validate ancestry to a specific village site will be contacted for discoveries of remains and associated grave goods within a 12 mile radius of that specific village....[5]

The distance between San Gabriel Mission and San Diego Mission is approximately 123 miles. So, even if Teresa was a California Indian, from San Diego , Dorame should not have been accepted as an MLD for any village site near Mission San Gabriel or the Los Angeles Basin . One mistake is painfully clear – ***the NAHC did not verify Dorame's claims.*** Had the NAHC merely checked *Wikipedia*, they might have been alerted to this discrepancy in another way.

...the gravel claims in San Gabriel Canyon ... were first discovered in 1854 by Captain Hannager (sic) and party of Los Angeles County . These men, however, possessed no experience whatever in mining, and made but five or six dollars per day. At about this time, there were exciting discoveries in the northern counties, and early in the year 1855 Hannager and party abandoned the San Gabriel claims and went to El Dorado . In 1858, a portion of the party returned; and, having had additional experience in the mines of the northern counties . . . went into placer mining, and took out from seven to ten dollars per day on an average.

Captain Henninger probably was among the earliest returnees because he found time away from his mining interests to become involved in local government. The August 22, 1857 issue of the Los Angeles Star newspaper lists Captain Hannegan (sic) of San Gabriel as one of five delegates from that community chosen to attend the Democratic County Convention held the day before. Two weeks later, the Star reported that the San Gabriel Township elected to office as justices Felipe Duarte and W. R. Henninger (sic). The appellation, Captain, for miners, was given to persons by virtue of rank or as a mark of respect. Henninger, no doubt, had both. About that time, Henninger married a ***Baja California Indian known to us only as Teresa.*** Their first born, Natividad, was baptized at the San Gabriel Mission on December 1858.

However, even family and political responsibilities did not prevent him from seeking riches in the placer mines near the Colorado River in Arizona . Truman relates in his book that: In the month of February, 1865, the great Colorado River and Arizona Territory excitement sprung up, and at least 500 out of the 700 men at San Gabriel (Canyon) packed up their traps and left for the newly-reported placers.

By the fall of 1865, he was once again involved in the political arena. He was elected by the gold-boom town of La Paz to the House of Representatives of the Second Arizona Legislative Assembly as one of the two Yuma County representatives. This assemblage convened in Prescott on December 6, 1865 and adjourned 24 days later. La Paz , located about six miles north of Ehrenberg, was soon abandoned and most residents moved on. Henninger probably followed suit, for he returned to San Gabriel in time to be enumerated in the 1870 Federal Census.

The 1870 census listed Henninger as a resident of the San Gabriel Township , age 52, born in Virginia , and with three daughters, each born in California : Louisa, Susana and Jesefa.

Interestingly, wife Teresa is not listed, though she did appear (without Henninger) on the 1860 census in the San Gabriel Township with two-year old daughter Nativida and three-month old daughter Luisa Emilia (sic). The fate of his wife Teresa and eldest daughter Natividad is unknown.[6] [Emphasis is author's.]

Even though Dorame's relatives claimed Teresa was an Indian from San Diego , *Wikipedia* seems to have taken its authority from another more reliable source – the California mission record.

The Facts of Teresa's Origin and Ethnicity

William Henninger and Teresa (Serrano/Duarte)

It takes the combination of two U.S. census records and four mission records to reveal the children William Henninger had with Teresa from 1858 through 1866:[7]

1. Maria Natividad (b. 3 Nov 1858)
2. Maria Luisa (b. 6 May 1860)
3. Francisca Susana (b. 4 Oct 1862)
4. Josefa (b. about 1866)

Of the four California Mission records that confirm of the relationship of these children to William Henninger and Teresa, only two refer to Teresa as an Indian, and only one of those was specific about her point of origin – Baja California , a state of Mexico . A chronological list of the records about this family from 1858 through 1884 follows:

- Mission San Gabriel baptism 9834 (16 Dec 1858), Maria Natividad, Indian[8]
On the 16th day of December of 1858, I solemnly baptized a female child, born on the 3rd of last November, natural daughter of W. K. Henninger and **Teresa, Indian from Baja California** . She was called Maria Natividad. The godparents were Refugio Jose Luis Lugo and Maria Francisca Natividad Romero ... [signed] Domingo Serrano, Cura
- Mission San Gabriel baptism #9977 (6 May 1860), Maria Luisa Henninger[9]
On the 6th of May, in the church of San Gabriel , I solemnly baptized a girl, born on the first of this same month, natural daughter of Frank [William] Henninger and Teresa. She was called Maria Luisa. The godparents were Jose Perez and Luisa ... [signed] N. Molino
- (11 July) 1860 U.S. Federal Census - San Gabriel, lists:[10]
Teresa, 23, f, **Indian**, born California
Natividad, 2, f, **Indian**, born California
Luisa Emilia, 3 months, f, **Indian**, born in California
- Mission San Gabriel baptism #10213, 24 October 1862, Francisca Susana[11]
Year 1862, day 24 of October, I solemnly baptized a girl who was born on the 4th day of this same month, legitimate daughter of [first name unknown] Henninger and **Teresa, Indian**; [she was] named Francisca Susana, and her godparents were Jose Luis Lugo and Rafael Lugo [signed] Cipriano Rubio
- 1870 U.S. Federal Census - San Gabriel , lists:[12]
Heninger, William K., age 52, male, white, laborer, born in Virginia
---, Louisa, age 8, female, white, at home, born in California
---, Susana, age 6, female, white, at home, born in California

---, Josefa, age 4, female, white, at home, born in California

- Mission San Gabriel, marriage #165, Francisco Grijalva and Luisa Henninger[13]
Day 30, April of 1884, ... [joined in] matrimony Francisco Grijalva, single, native of Ocampo, the state of Sonora, and resident of San Pasqual, son of Ricardo Grijalva and Gertrudis Quijada, with Luisa Henninger, single, daughter of William Henninger and Teresa Duarte, native of San Gabriel and resident of San Pasqual ... [signed] Joaq[ui]n Bot, P[resbite]ro

One might want to argue that calling Maria Luisa Henninger a native of San Gabriel meant that this was her place of origin. While it does mean that exactly for her, it does not change the source for her ethnicity. For example, if a white man moves to China , it might lead to a Chinese citizenship but it will change his ethnicity to Chinese. The Indian ancestry for Maria Luisa Henninger had it earliest known origins in Mexico , not California . Her Indian lineage is clearly definable as Mexican in origin (geographically). Also, one may want to argue the 1860 record stands as a valid rebuttal to the mission record, for Teresa's birth place, but census records are not wholly reliable for lots of things – ages, relationships, spelling of names, and even origins. [For certified genealogists, this much is a well-known census character flaw.] Given all evidence does not have an equal value, the available evidence shows ***Teresa was not a Gabrieleño Indian or even a California Indian at all.*** She may have lived at San Gabriel but where one resides does not change one's ethnicity or ancestry.

By 1880, William Henninger was off to Arizona again and his daughters began starting families of their own. Maria Luisa partnered with Francisco Grijalva, in 1884, and then with David D. dela Ossa, in 1892. Francisca Susana partnered with Francisco San Miguel (parents of Maria Clara – Dorame's grandmother) and Jesus Grijalva. [None of these men were ever referenced as Indian, from California or elsewhere.] While other records have been found that relate to this family and their descendants, none shed any further details regarding Teresa's origins. Thus the only reliable authority remaining is that of the single mission record of Maria Natividad which clearly stated ***Teresa was an Indian from Baja California***, a state of Mexico .

Conclusion

In truth, the available evidence indicates Robert F. Dorame is not California Indian at all, as he claimed. That he is the "tribal chairman" of the Gabrieleño tribe or deemed as eligible as a MLD remains a mystery because he has not proven his case. Rather the available evidence proves he is a descendant of Teresa, an Indian from Baja Mexico – not from Mission San Gabriel. Therefore, Dorame should remove himself from any MLD lists for that area or for any repatriation issues for California at all. Agencies who deal with Dorame should also take heed to the significance of the evidence and remove him from their contact lists as well.

If nothing else, it is hope that this report, and other like it, will encourage agencies to demand good, reliable proof and not be fooled by a willy-nilly self-identification or by a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood based on the unreliable 1928 CIJA database. Only in this way can the rights of those Indians, whom the laws were designed to protect, be guaranteed.

[1] Gabrieleño tribal enrollment application, signed by Robert F. Dorame, 4 Oct 1992; photocopy provided to author by Andrew Salas, San Gabriel , California .

[2] http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2006-08-14-indian-burial_x.htm.

[3] <http://www.taph.com/relocation/between-heaven-earth-2.html>.

[4] 1928 California Indian Jurisdictional Act applications #11183, Elvira Jimenez; #11184, Maclovio Grijalva; #11185, Manuel Henninger; #11186, Teopista Grijalva and #11188, Paul Henninger; National Archives - Pacific Region; microfilm series I-32, reel 33.

[5] Native American Heritage Commission, "Costanoan/Ohlone Most Likely Descendants Policy."

[6] <http://fire.lacounty.gov/Forestry/OpsHenningerHistory1800LifeOfWKHenninger.asp>.

[7] Some genealogical research has concluded the eldest child of this union was William Henninger, Jr., born 1852, but, to date, this research has not been independently verified.

[8] Catholic Church, Mission San Gabriel (San Gabriel , CA); baptisms; entry 9834 (16 Dec 1858), M.a Natividad; courtesy of San Fernando Mission; photocopy provided by Andy Salas.

[9] Catholic Church, Mission San Gabriel (San Gabriel , CA); baptisms; entry (6 May 1860), Maria Luisa Henninger; photocopy courtesy of San Fernando Archival Center ; photocopy provided by Andy Salas.

[10] Teresa household, 1860 U.S. census, CA, Los Angeles Co., San Gabriel Township, page 129, dwelling 408, family 1131; source: www.Ancestry.com, 1860 U.S. census, CA, Los Angeles, San Gabriel, image 1.

[11] Catholic Church, Mission San Gabriel (San Gabriel , CA); baptisms; entry 10213 (24 Oct 1862), Fran.ca Susana; photocopy transcribed and provided by Andy Salas.

[12] William K. Heninger household, 1870 U.S. census, CA, Los Angeles Co., San Gabriel Township, page 11, dwelling 162, family 162; source: www.Ancestry.com, 1870 U.S. census, CA, Los Angeles, San Gabriel, image 11.

[13] Catholic Church, Mission San Gabriel (San Gabriel , CA); baptisms; FHL microfilm 2644; entry 2463 (24 Aug) 1884, M.a Clara San Miguel.